

# Yachting World

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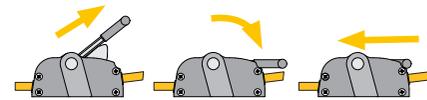
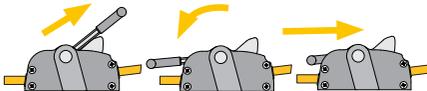
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# NEW GEAR

## ANTAL VH JAMMER

The lever articulates 180° to open the cam completely and release the line



The T-bar lever can be pulled out to increase purchase and is lifted to pre-load the V-cam inside



## Handling a jam

Antal continue to impress with their ever-extending range of deck gear products that combines practicality with appealing aesthetics – no wonder they are on an increasing number of production yachts we test.

This autumn the Italian company launch an interesting maxi jammer which transitions from the Class 40 and Open 60 into the bigger cruising yacht sector.

Jammers or 'stoppers' tend to be favoured over rope clutches when the loads get very high, particularly for halyards on large yachts. A key difference between the two is that tension can't simply be released on a jammer as it can on a clutch, but must be taken up on a winch prior to release.

Although some high-end raceboats now use multiple halyard locks, jammers like this VH and Spinlock's ZR and ZS (see below) are staple deck gear to free up winches safely because they are simple to operate. They are good aboard large cruisers or long-distance racers on which high-load lines are adjusted or used infrequently; eg mains and headsails are hoisted and left set on the jammer.

A neat feature of the Antal VH V-grip jammer is its innovative extendable T-bar handle. Its extra length increases the leverage, thereby making release and lock down of the cam easier. We also like the extension, part of a clever positive pull-and-push locking process that prevents accidental low-load release or snagging.

Lines can be tailed with the unit closed, but, like all jammers, the handle cannot be sprung under load, so tension must be taken on a winch before the VH can be opened.

Developed for use with Dyneema and conventional all-polyester lines, Antal's V-shaped cam claims good grip and minimal rope wear. There are models for 8mm, 10mm and 12mm lines, all available as single, double and triple units.

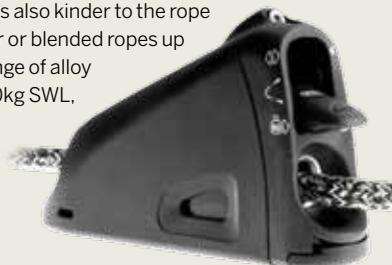
**Price to be confirmed, circa €500 (£390) ex VAT. [www.antal.it](http://www.antal.it)**

## 5 OF THE REST JAMMERS AND CLUTCHES

### Spinlock ZR and ZS jammers

Wonder what's the point of a jammer if it can't be released under load like a clutch? Then look at the ZR – it holds 50 per cent more load than its equivalent clutch (the XTS) and is also kinder to the rope jacket. The ZR serves 10-14mm polyester or blended ropes up to 1,500kg. Meanwhile, Spinlock's ZS range of alloy jammers goes up to an impressive 4,000kg SWL, and the Open model can be attached by a strop to any strong point to act as an emergency line clamp.

**Price ZR jammer £185.25 ex VAT. [www.spinlock.co.uk](http://www.spinlock.co.uk)**



### Lewmar D1 and D2 clutches

Rather than use a cam to grip the line, Lewmar's clutches run the rope through a series of smooth in-line rings, hinged at the base and connected by a lever. When this tilts the rings, it exerts friction on the line to hold it in place, allowing controlled release with minimal abrasion.

The D1 is for 6-12mm lines up to 500kg and the D2 for 8-14mm lines up to 1,200kg.

**Price from £44.92 ex VAT. [www.lewmar.com](http://www.lewmar.com)**



## NEW GEAR with Mike Owen



### Baltic children's lifejackets

Baltic have added a child's lifejacket to their range. A new design, the Sailor has smaller size increments for optimal fit: the Baby (for 3-10kg); Toddler (10-15kg); Child (15-30kg); Large Child (30-40kg); and Junior (40-50kg). Available in three high-vis colours, the lifejacket has a collar designed to support the head and a split front to allow easy movement. It is equipped with a whistle, a lifting handle and retroreflective patches. The two smallest sizes have a beaver-tail crutch strap. **Price ex VAT £29.16. [www.baltic.se](http://www.baltic.se)**



### Aqua 200 Series PC

It's what's inside that counts, say Digital Yacht of their upgraded Aqua 200 Series PC, specifically designed for boat use. That means no moving parts inside and no inverters or AC power because this connects directly to the boat's battery system with a typical draw of under 1A at 12V DC. The PC now has 4Gb RAM and a 64Gb solid state drive, four USB ports, NMEA, VGA and HMDI outputs for two monitors to drive chart table displays. Stand G091 Southampton Boat Show. **Price ex VAT £595. [www.digitalyacht.co.uk](http://www.digitalyacht.co.uk)**



### Elit night-vision bins

Specialist marine electronics distributor Eurotask have added the Elit night vision binoculars to their range, incorporating camera technology that enables you to film up to seven hours of downloadable footage. Built of rugged aluminium, the CCD technology amplifies ambient light to produce crisp images on a 2.5in, 960 x 240 resolution screen. Unlike thermal-imaging cameras, these bins can see through glass – windscreens, for example. **Price ex VAT from £1,330. [www.eurotaskltd.com](http://www.eurotaskltd.com)**



### Wonderbag Eco Cooker

The name of the Wonderbag Eco Cooker is apt. Prepare your meal in a short-handled casserole, boil or simmer it on the hob for a short while, then transfer the pan into the insulated heat retention bag and it will slow-cook from its own internal heat – very clever. It requires planning – cooking takes around four hours – but this offers big savings on gas and keeps the galley cooler, less humid and also prevents potential spillage. See it at Southampton Show, Stand G013. **Price ex VAT £50 [www.gn-ospace.com](http://www.gn-ospace.com)**

### Rutgeron RC S600701 Clutches

Built of lightweight composite housings, Rutgeron clutches are aimed at the mid-sized yacht market up to 42ft. The neat part is that this housing can easily be removed from the mounting plate, so it can be assembled around an endless line (on roller reefing, for example). RC 75X clutches take 8-12mm line up to 750kg, and RC 1000 takes 10-16mm up to 1,000kg.

**Price from €63.03 (£49.40) ex VAT. [www.rutgeron.se](http://www.rutgeron.se)**



### Spinlock XXC Clutch

Spinlock's ultra-high performance XXC clutch, developed for TP 52 and Volvo sailors, offers controlled release for 8-12mm performance lines up to an astonishing 2,350kg. That's 30 per cent more holding power than their standard XX. With titanium and carbon in the body plus ceramic jaws, it's 15 per cent lighter too.

**Price £727.50 ex VAT. [www.spinlock.co.uk](http://www.spinlock.co.uk)**



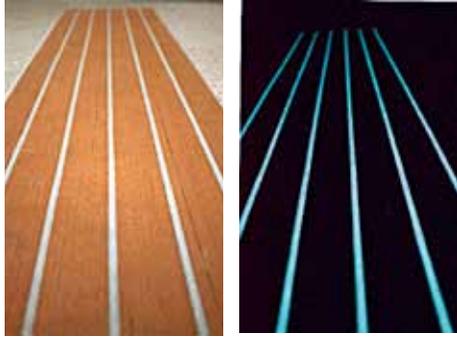
### Barton 81500 Clutch

The Barton 81500 rope clutch grips 10-12mm lines up to 550kg using an extruded aluminium cam with tempered tooth design. The hard anodising of the clutch body prevents salt and UV degradation. The clutch is bolted rather than riveted together, so it is easy to replace any worn parts.

**Price from £43.99 ex VAT. [www.bartonmarine.com](http://www.bartonmarine.com)**



## NEW GEAR



### Azure fluoro planking

How many times have you tripped in the dark while climbing from the tender to the main deck? Synthetic teak decking specialists PlasDeck have a neat solution in the form of their Azure planking range – luminous technology incorporated into the caulking strips. Charged by daylight, with no need for batteries nor wiring, the strips glow a soft blue from dusk to dawn. You only need to add a few strips rather than do the whole deck. It is available with bullnose edging for the stairs too. **Price on application. [www.plasdeck.com](http://www.plasdeck.com)**



### AIS-ready lifejackets

Ocean Safety have increased the chances of location and survival if the worst happens – their premier range lifejackets are now designed ready to fit the Kannad R10 AIS Survival recovery system and Aquaspec light. These additions will boost the safety of the Kru and Falcon ranges and significantly increase the chance of recovery by transmitting a signal to the yacht's onboard AIS receiver and other vessels within a four-mile radius. Stand G009 Southampton Boat Show. **Price ex VAT from £304. [www.oceansafety.com](http://www.oceansafety.com)**



### Velsheda sail bags

While the summer served up a feast of J Class events for thousands of thrilled spectators, there wasn't a souvenir in sight – no caps, no shirts, in fact no souvenirs at all. But the host of the Solent regattas, Royal Southampton Yacht Club, commissioned a limited run of five different-sized bags made by Doyle Sails, all crafted from an original *Velsheda* sail. Only 200 have been made and 25 per cent of the profits go to the charity Toe in the Water.

**Prices ex VAT from £35.80 to £52.10. email [maggie@rsyc.org.uk](mailto:maggie@rsyc.org.uk)**

### Marine weather app

Designed for smartphones, the Marine weather app from US-based Bluefin Engineering now covers all UK onshore and offshore areas. A free version of the app features the latest marine weather forecasts, data from live weather stations and sunrise/sunset times, with a favourites list to speed retrieval. The advert-free Plus version, which costs £1.99, adds in a full range of tidal data. **Downloadable from [www.marineweatherbybluefin.com/uk](http://www.marineweatherbybluefin.com/uk)**



### Gill sunglasses

There's more than meets the eye to the upgraded close-fitting sunglasses by Gill. The company say the polaroid lenses of these popular floating shades now block 100 per cent of harmful UVA, UVB and UVC radiation. As helpful for sailors is that the coatings shed water to prevent salt-caking, fingerprints and sunscreen smears. The lenses are also shatterproof and scratch-resistant, which all adds up to a low-cost, good clear vision.

**Price ex VAT £32.50. [www.gillmarine.com](http://www.gillmarine.com)**



### Hatch storage bag

Optimising the wasted space beneath curved cockpit locker lids, the under-hatch storage bag from Robship of Sweden seems like a good idea for essentials you want to keep close to hand. Manufactured in semi-transparent polyester fabric with what Robship claim is a strong self-repairable zip, the bag fits with self-tappers and washers and incorporates a shock cord to secure the locker lid open. The company's full range is now marketed in the UK by Roche Marine. **Price ex VAT £32.50. [www.rochemarine.co.uk](http://www.rochemarine.co.uk)**